

REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-9 and 17-21 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Claims 1-21 are pending. Claims 10-16 are withdrawn from consideration, in view of a Restriction Requirement. Rejoinder of these claims, under the provisions of MPEP 821.04 *et seq.*, is request. Claims 22-23 are added. Support for new Claims 22-23 is found on page 31, paragraph 132.

No new matter is believed to be added upon entry of the amendment.

Upon entry of the amendment, Claims 1-23 will be pending, with Claims 1-9 and 17-23 being active.

The rejection of Claims 1-9 and 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite is respectfully traversed.

Applicants direct the Examiner's attention to the specification text at page 31, paragraph 132, which reads as follows:

A magnetization (σ_b) of the carrier (C1) at 1,000 Oe measured by a multi-sample rotational magnetization measurer REM-1-10 ® from TOEI INDUSTRY CO., LTD. was 65 emu/g.

Applicants note that one would be able to readily ascertain the manner in which the magnetization σ_b is measured by inspecting the above-cited specification text. In the event that the Examiner desires to have the manner in which the magnetization σ_b is measured expressly recited in the claims, then Applicants have included new Claims 22-23.

Since it is believed that the claims are free of indefinite language, Applicants kindly request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

The objection to the specification are obviated by amendment. In particular, the specification is amended to correct the typographical errors discovered by the Examiner.

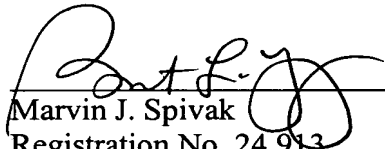
Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

With regard to the legibility of references BA – BF cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed April 27, 2004, Applicants concurrently file an Information Disclosure Statement that cites these references for a second time. Legible copies of these references are attached thereto. Applicants kindly request that the Examiner acknowledge these references.

In view of the amendments to the specification and claims, as well as the preceding remarks, Applicants believe that the present application is now in a condition for allowance. An early and favorable indication of the same is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.


Marvin J. Spivak
Registration No. 24,913

Customer Number
22850
Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

Bryant L. Young
Registration No. 49,073